UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

David K. Lucente Seagate Technology LLC Intellectual Property – COL2LGL 389 Disc Drive Longmont, CO 80503

MAILED

APR 03 2006

Technology Center 2100

In re Application of: Robert G. BEAN, et al Application No. 10/669,196 Filed: September 23, 2003

For: DATA RELIABILITY BIT STORAGE QUALIFIER AND LOGICAL UNIT

METADATA

DECISION ON PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition, originally filed on 30 June 2005 under 37 C.F.R. §102(d) and M.P.E.P. § 708.02(VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 102(d) states in relevant part:

A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (A) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(h);
- (B) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;
- (C) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;
- (D) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and

Serial No.: 10/669,196 Decision on Petition

(E) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR $\S\S$ 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

In those instances where the request for this special status does not meet all the prerequisites set forth above, applicant will be notified and the defects in the request will be stated. The application will remain in the status of a new application awaiting action in its regular turn. In those instances where a request is defective in one or more respects, applicant will be given one opportunity to perfect the request in a renewed petition to make special. If perfected, the request will then be granted. If not perfected in the first renewed petition, any additional renewed petitions to make special may or may not be considered at the discretion of the Group Special Program Examiner.

Applicant's submission of 30 June 2005 fails to meet requirement (E) as set forth above. Responsive to requirement (e), applicant must provide a "detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularly requirement by 37 CFR § 1.111(b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references." Petitioner should ensure that the above discussion is directed to how the language of each of the independent claims are specifically distinguishable and patentable from the references provided pursuant to requirement (e) supra.

Accordingly, the petition is **<u>DISMISSED</u>**. Petitioner is given one opportunity to perfect the petition. Any request for reconsideration must be filed within TWO MONTHS of the mail date of this decision.

Until the renewed petition is submitted, the application will be returned to the examiner's docket to await treatment on the merits in the normal order of examination.

Vincent N. Trans

Special Program Examiner Technology Center 2100

Computer Architecture, Software, and

Information Security

571-272-3613